



# Tapu'itea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Friday  
December 8,  
2006

OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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## AMERICAN SAMOA HOSTS “FIRST PACIFIC TERRITORIES VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN SUMMIT”

(UTULEI) – Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, Trainers, Technical Assistance Providers and participants of the First ever “Pacific Territories Violence Against Women Summit” arrived in the Territory. The theme for the Summit is “Strengthening Families, Women and Community”.

The Department of Justice (DOJ), Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) in partnership with the Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPF) and our very own American Samoa Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (ASCADASV) are but a few organizations making this Summit a reality for participating Territories.

Julie Mata'u, Coalition Treasurer and local Summit Coordinator informed that this has been in the making since June 2004 when a delegation from American Samoa attended a planning meeting in Hawaii. On their return, the American Samoa Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence was formed.

Mata'u attributes the organizations work to committed individuals and groups from agency members who have been relentless in continuing to engage the Community in a topic that is often difficult to speak about in any community. The level of awareness has been gathering momentum since 2004 through various activities ranging from workshops in villages, schools and churches, to full blown ‘traffic stopping’ parades and men marching against violence led by our very own Governor and another Parade led by the First Lady.”

This year, throughout the designated national Domestic Violence Awareness Month of October, the Coalition was able to secure community involvement through a two day Forum. Outcomes of these discussions formed the basis of the Territory's presentation at the Summit being held next week. The public are invited to the first two days of the Summit while the final two days are reserved for participating Territories to provide update and continue their work in building capacities within their respective communities. The Community is encouraged to contact the Summit Planning Coordinator, Julie Mata'u on (684) 633 2892 or 258 2892 for additional information regarding the summit or local Coalition activities

## ASCC Hosts Archaeology of the Polynesian Homeland Conference

(ASCC Press Release) The American Samoa Community College (ASCC) hosted the first ever Archaeology conference in American Samoa last week when 37 international participants from Tonga, the Independent State of Samoa, Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Australia, Hawaii, Japan, Canada, the USA, England, and France gathered to take part in the Archaeology of the Polynesian Homeland Conference. “Through the conference, we achieved a much better understanding of regional dynamics in the Samoa-Tonga-Fiji triangle in ancient times,” explained Dr. David Addison, Archaeology instructor at ASCC. Addison co-organized the four-day conference along with Dr. Christophe Sand, Director of the New Caledonia Archaeology Department.

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# SEASON'S GREETINGS



## Archaeology Conference *(from page 1)*

The visiting Archaeologists, all distinguished within the field, shared their latest research results and discussed similarities and differences between the different Polynesian islands they focus on in their work. Participants included Hon. Noble Tu'ivanuavou Albert Vaea, Secretary to the Tongan Traditions Committee; Ratu Jone Nacabalavu Balenaivalu, Director of the Department of Archaeology, Fiji Museum; Prof. Dave Burley, Director, First Nation Studies Institute, and Chair, Archaeology Department, Simon Fraser University; Lau Dr. Asofou Leapa'i, Deputy Vice Chancellor and former Director of Samoa Studies, National University of Samoa; Prof. Thegn Ladefoged, Chair, Anthropology Department, University of Auckland; Prof. Lisa Matisoo-Smith, Director, Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, University of Auckland; Dr. Frederique Valentin, Director, Peopling of the Pacific Oceanic Study Lab, CNRS, France; Dr. Fiona Petchy, Deputy Director, Waikato University Radiocarbon Dating Lab; and numerous university professors and graduate students.

Conference sessions covered a multitude of topics, such as landscapes, chronology and cultural dynamics in the Eastern Lapita Province; material culture and physical anthropology of the Eastern Lapita Cultural Complex; post-Lapita regional evolutions, (2600-1800 BP); the debate on the Proto-Polynesian culture in archaeological perspective; Archaeology of the "Dark Ages" (AD 400-1200); emergence of the "traditional chiefdoms" in a regional perspective (AD 1000-1500); production centers, exchange networks and settlement; monumental architecture in regional perspective; the Tongan maritime chiefdom on the regional scene and its socio-cultural influence; the archaeology of contact: rethinking the consequences of the first two centuries of European intrusions in the central Pacific; ancient subsistence: agriculture and marine exploitation; and the archaeology of the Polynesian Homeland in the 21st century.

Dr. Addison said the conference ended with pledges of renewed research in the region and more efforts at collaborative projects between institutions. "The participants also left with a great impression of American Samoa and ASCC, thanks to the efforts and hospitality of the staff at the College's Land Grant division, where the sessions took place. One participant even told me, 'I have never been fed so well at any conference.'"

This coming semester, Dr. Addison will begin teaching at ASCC. He holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and has done field research in Tutuila and Manu'a for the past seven years. His work has also taken him to many locations in Hawaii, the Marquesas Islands, and Palau. "So much of what really happened in the past remains a mystery," he reflected. "Archaeology lets us discover something new by studying something old, and I look forward to familiarizing the young men and women of American Samoa with the knowledge, techniques and philosophies associated with this field."

## ASCC Nursing Recognition

*By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press*

Each year in December, the Nursing College (ASCC) holds a Recognition Ceremony

The Nursing Department will hold its 2006 Recognition Ceremony this coming Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the ASCC auditorium. *(Photo: ASCC)*

## Department to Hold Ceremony

*Officer*

Department at the American Samoa Community for the students who have earned their Certificates of



Proficiency in Practical Nursing or Associate of Science degrees in Registered Nursing. The Fall 2006 ceremony takes place this coming Tuesday, December 12, at 6 p.m. in the ASCC auditorium (separate from the general graduation ceremony on December 15<sup>th</sup>).

This Tuesday's ceremony will honor nine students who have completed the Nursing Department's program for Practical Nurses (PN), and in the program for Registered Nurses (RN). Department Chair Lele Ah Mu-Mageo explained that earning their certificates or

degrees marks a major step in the students' development within the medical profession, but not the final one. "Besides completing our program, the PN and RN students must also take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) to

earn their qualifications within the field of nursing. Once they pass the NCLEX, they can work in any hospital in the U.S.”

(continued on page 4)

### ***4th annual Governor Tauese P. F. Sunia Memorial Coral Reef Conservation Summer Internship Award***

**(UTULEI)** – Governor Togiola Tulafono is pleased to announce the advertisement of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual American Samoa Governor Tauese P.F. Sunia Memorial Coral Reef Conservation Summer Internship Award, in recognition of the late Governor’s outstanding leadership and contribution to U.S. Coral Reef Conservation. The United States Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) administers the award and is requesting applications for submittal.

This is a competitive award, in which two excellent students will be selected to receive a three-month, expenses-paid summer internship working on coral reef conservation and management issues with an agency/office of the Department of the Interior. The winners will start their internship in June 2007. The Governor’s Coral Reef Advisory Group (CRAG) will collect applications from perspective candidates for distribution to the USCRTF. Applications need to be submitted no later than February 9, 2006. Details on eligibility and application requirements are as follows:

#### ***Eligibility***

In order to be considered for this award, applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Be currently enrolled in an associate’s or bachelors degree program in marine policy or science with emphasis on coral reefs; and have completed a minimum of one academic year of study in that program.
- Have demonstrated interest in, and work on, coral reef issues; and
- Be a legal resident of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, or Hawai’i.

#### **Application Selection Timetable**

- Applications deadline to Coral Reef Advisory Group: February 9, 2007  
(CRAG Contact Christianera Tuitele 633-5155)
- Award winner notified: March 17, 2007

#### ***Application Material***

All applicants wishing to be considered for the Award should submit the following material:

- Unofficial copies of all college and/or university transcripts
- Current Resume
- One letter of recommendation from a professor or relevant employer
- A 750 word essay (maximum) on the importance of managing coral reefs in your island jurisdiction and nationally; and how this internship will benefit your career goals related to coral reef management in your island.

Application materials may be submitted by fax, hand delivery or e-mail and must be received by CRAG no later than **February 9, 2007**. For further information, please contact Christianera Tuitele of the Coral Reef Advisory Group; Department of Commerce at [ctuitele@doc.asg.as](mailto:ctuitele@doc.asg.as); Phone: (684) 633- 5155; Fax: (684) 633- 4195.

Last year’s winners include American Samoa’s Imelda Gebauer and Haley Kuntz from Hawaii. Ms. Gebauer excelled in her performance as a Sunia Intern and is now enrolled in the Marine Science Program at the University of Hawaii and is serving as an intern for the USCRTF All-Islands Secretariat, headquartered in Honolulu.

## ASCC NURSING

from page 2)

The Nursing Department curriculum prepares the students for the PN or RN versions of the NCLEX, an extensive test which may last up to five or six hours. The nursing students schedule their NCLEX exams, administered locally, on their own initiative when they feel ready. Should they not pass on their first try, they may retake the NCLEX after a 45-day waiting period. Nursing instructor Patricia Brooks reports that the rate of ASCC students passing the NCLEX on their first attempt has risen steadily over the past few years, thanks in part to grant funding generously provided by Governor Togiola Tulafono. "The Governor's grant has enabled us to strengthen the program in some crucial areas," says Brooks, "and you can see the results in the number of our RN students who have already passed the NCLEX and earned their licenses."

Of the seven Registered Nursing students finishing their AS degrees this semester, five have already earned their licenses: Tuaotala Fa'alilo, RN; Sandra Lei Ho Ching, RN; Pone Matatia, RN; Frances Togia-Saelua, RN; and Taufauomalo Tuimaleali'ifano, RN. Laisarini Hanipale and Annie Ma'ae have earned their degrees, but will sit the NCLEX at a future date. Among the nine students receiving their certificates in Practical Nursing, May Brannon, LPN, has additionally earned her license. Other graduates in the PN program currently preparing for the NCLEX include Deidre Esteron, Honorine Hollister, Christopher Ibasco, Danielle Jennings, Regina McComber, Ana Talapa, Panacea Tuaua, and Corabelle Tusiofo.

This Tuesday's ceremony will feature opening remarks from ASCC President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i, special remarks from Hon. Gov. Togiola Tulafono, and a keynote address by adjunct faculty member Christine Peters, RN, BSN. Reverend Uluaio Failauga will perform the invocation, and Board of Higher Education Chairman Tauilili Pemerika will give the closing remarks. The graduates

## SHARE IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

with our ASG workforce

as well as the citizens of American Samoa.

Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other

information to: [tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as](mailto:tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as)

Deadline for submissions is Thursday @ noon.

### Contact:

Harry Stevens @733-1694

or

Vince Iuli @ 733-1041

or call 633-4116

## HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

**On November 26, 1941**, "Tutuila was hammered by a hurricane, which damaged plantations, native fales, and tents."

**On November 26, 1942**, Tutuila "was visited by a mild hurricane which caused damage to plantations, native houses, and tents."

**On November 26, 1942**, Captain Edward V. "Eddie" Rickenbacker, America's leading "ace" in World War I (26 victories in a Spad XIII) was released from the U.S. Navy's Mobile Hospital No. 3 ("MOB 3") in Mapusaga. He and his companions spent 22 days in a raft after their plane (a Boeing B-17E *Flying Fortress*) went down, on a flight to Australia. They were rescued by an airplane and a PT boat near Funafuti, in the Ellice Islands, were treated there, and were then taken to Samoa for more extensive medical care. Rickenbacker wrote that wartime Tutuila "was alive with all kinds of military activities; and from being one of those so-called island paradises of the South Seas it was fast becoming an ocean fortress. The scenery is wonderful, and in many other respects the South Seas is the most attractive place in the world to fight a war. But the region has its drawbacks. The rainy season had just begun, and you have my word for it, it doesn't just rain out there---the ocean tilts up and swamps you."

**On November 27, 1901**, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley completed his term as American Samoa's first naval governor.

**On November 27, 1901**, Captain Uriel Sebree took office as American Samoa's second naval governor (until December 16, 1902).

**On November 26, 1901**, Captain Uriel Sebree, Commandant, U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, ordered that three principal roads, "suitable to native needs," be built without delay.

**On November 28, 1907**, the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila's station ship, USS *Annapolis*, "with Commander Charles Brainard Taylor Moore, United States Navy, Governor of Tutuila, in command, left the Naval Station, Tutuila, for Papeete, Tahiti..." "to observe the total eclipse of the sun on January 3, 1908"..."at Flint Island, longitude 151degrees 48' W., latitude 11degrees 26' S." An "eclipse party" from the Lick Observatory (in Santa Cruz, California) was on board, assisted by Assistant Astronomer Benjamin Boss.

**On November 29, 1970**, His Holiness Pope Paul VI visited Western Samoa and later American Samoa, thus becoming the only Pontiff to visit Samoa.

**On November 30, 1965**, Pan American World Airways began its inaugural service from Pago Pago, American Samoa to Papeete, Tahiti.

**On December 2, 1901**, the United States Department of the Navy ruled that "(a) The occupancy of Tutuila is quite distinct from the sovereignty exercised at Porto [sic] Rico, Hawaii and Guam. (b) It is not foreign but domestic territory. (c) Samoans are not 'citizens of the United States,' but owe allegiance to the flag."

**On December 3, 1894**, Robert Louis Stevenson died of a cerebral hemorrhage "on a cot, in the hall" at his home "Vailima," in Western Samoa. At the time of his death, he was assisting his wife Fanny by making mayonnaise for the forthcoming meal.

**On December 3, 1953**, the Van Camp Sea Food Company of California leased the cannery, which had been on a standby basis previously, from the American Samoa Government.

## **ASG RADIO PROGRAM**

*With:*

**Governor Togiola Tulafono**

**Saturdays @ 7a.m.**

*On:*

**Showers of Blessings-**

**FM 104.7**

**Call 699-8123 or 699-8124**